

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2070
CINCPAC

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FOR: SECSTATE EA/PHL ONLY
USIA/IEA
CINCPAC - USIA ADVISOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS - JULY 1 - 7

I. PSYCHOLOGICAL

A. A STUDY IN CONTRASTS -- THE COMMENTATORS AND THE NEWS EDITORS DANCED TO DIFFERENT PIPERS THE WEEK OF JULY 4, WHICH IS ALSO PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP DAY. PRESIDENT MARCOS' VERY WARM SPEECH ON THE OCCASION WAS GIVEN FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE--WITH FOLLOWUP FULL TEXT TREATMENT--AND BOTH RADIO AND TV COVERED IT FULLY. THE PRESIDENT MADE CLEAR THE PHILIPPINES' COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS IN HIS SPEECH AND SAID TO THE U.S.: "YOU NOW PRESIDE OVER THE MORAL REVOLUTION OF OUR TIMES, AND IN THIS NONE OF US CAN FAIL." WHILE NOTING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US, HIS EMPHASIS THROUGHOUT WAS ON THE STRONG FABRIC OF OUR RELATIONS. MEANWHILE, THE DAILY EXPRESS IN ITS EDITORIAL WAS SAYING: "PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP IS REMEMBERED TODAY AMID AN UNEASY FEELING OF DISENCHANTMENT WITH THE AMERICAN RESPONSE SO FAR TO PHILIPPINE
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ATTEMPTS AT FORGING A MORE EQUITABLE, JUST, AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIP." THE EDITORIAL SUGGESTS THAT THE RELATIONSHIP CAN ONLY FIND "DEEP AND SUBSTANTIAL MEANING" AFTER SERIOUS REEXAMINATION AND REVISION OF VARIOUS TREATIES. THE EXPRESS' DOROY VALENCIA, NOT SURPRISINGLY, ADOPTS A LESS RATIONAL TONE: "TODAY IS PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN FIRENDSHIP DAY. WE HOPE IT IS THE LAST." HE CALLS IT A "COLONIAL CELEBRATION,"

REFERS TO "ONE-WAY FRIENDSHIP" AND CALLS FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM THE BASES. LIKEWISE, NORMALLY HUMOROUS COLUMNIST JOE GUEVARA WHO, LIKE VALENCIA, TAKES NO PAINS TO MASK HIS ANTI-AMERICANISM, TURNED SERIOUS IN HIS REFERENCE TO FIL-AM FRIENDSHIP DAY. HE SAYS, "IT'S AN ANACHRONISTIC, MEANINGLESS AND EMPTY GESTURE ON OUR PART, PERPETUATED BY A COLONIAL MENTALITY WHICH WE'VE LONG DISCARDED."

B. JAPANESE STILL TAKING DRUBBING -- IN THE WAKE OF REPORTS IN JAPAN ALLEGING THAT A JAPANESE CHOLERA OUTBREAK ORIGINATED IN THE PHILIPPINES WINS THAT OLD SHARK, DOROY VALENCIA. HE WILL NOT LET UP ON THE JAPANESE. HIS LATEST: AN ITEM IN WHICH HE SAYS THAT "JAPAN CAN ILL-AFFORD THE AMERICAN AIR OF SUPERIORITY BECAUSE THE AMERICAN RESERVOIR OF GOODWILL IS STILL MORE THAN HALF-FILLED. JAPAN'S RESERVOIR OF HATRED IS WHAT IS MORE THAN HALF-FILLED." HE SUGGESTS THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY OF A "RESURGENCE OF THE WARTIME ANIMOSITIES THAT JAPAN HERSELF CREATED." HE SEEMS TO BE DOING HIS UTMOST TO ACHIEVE THAT END.

II. SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES:

A. VIKING SCIENTIST CONCLUDES VISIT -- VOLUNTARY SPEAKER GERALD SOFFEN, VIKING CHIEF SCIENTIST, HAD A TWO-DAY OFFICIAL PROGRAM AND, WITH HIS REMARKABLE DRIVE AND ENERGY, ORGANIZED TWO UNCLASSIFIED

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UNOFFICIAL DAYS OF ACTIVITIES WHILE IN MANILA. ON THE OFFICIAL SIDE HE MADE A VIDEOTAPE PROGRAM FOR LATER USE (PROBABLY ON THE POST'S "KALEIDOSCOPE" SHOW), CONDUCTED A "DINNER SEMINAR" ON THE MARS PROGRAM FOR MEDIA AND ACADEMIC REPRESENTATIVES AND HELD A SYMPOSIUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE PHYSICS, CHEMISTRY AND ASTRONOMY SOCIETIES AT THE NATIONAL SCIENCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD. HIS AUDIENCES WERE IMPRESSED BY DR. SOFFEN, THOUGH BECAUSE THEIR BACKGROUNDS WERE LIMITED, THEY DID NOT TAP HIS RESOURCES VERY WELL. WE CONCUR WITH OTHER POSTS ON THE ITINERARY THAT SOFFEN IS PERSONABLE, KNOWLEDGEABLE AND AN EXCELLENT COMMUNICATOR. HE WAS ALSO HELPFUL TO THE POST BY PROVIDING USEFUL INSIGHTS FOR FUTURE PROGRAMMING OF SCIENTISTS.

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B. AILEY TROUPE SCORES ARTISTIC, BUT NOT FINANCIAL SUCCESS --
ALVIN AILEY'S AMERICAN DANCE THEATER OPENED A WEEK-LONG RUN IN
MANILA JULY 4. THE GALA PREMIERE WAS ATTENDED BY PRESIDENT AND
MRS. MARCOS, WITH SEVERAL CABINET MEMBERS AND 400 OTHER IMPORTANT
EMBASSY CONTACTS AND MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN THE
AUDIENCE. THE COMPANY WAS WARMLY, THOUGH NOT WIDELY, RECEIVED.

FOLLOWING THE PERFORMANCE DANCERS MIXED WITH EMBASSY
CONTACTS AT A RECEPTION FINANCED LARGELY BY THE AMERICAN
BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND SUPPLEMENTED WITH REPRESENTATIONAL FUNDS.
THEY HEARD CHARGE STULL TOAST PHIL-AM FRIENDSHIP (SEE MANILA
10292-U). PRESIDENT MARCOS, IN RETURN, LAUDED THE DANCERS'
OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE AND WARMLY RECALLED THE ENDURING LINKS
WHICH BIND OUR TWO COUNTRIES (SEE MANILA 10294-C). HIS SPEECH
WAS LATER REPRINTED IN ALL MAJOR NEWSPAPERS AND WAS BROADCAST
AND TELECAST IN WHOLE AND IN PART OVER MOST MANILA STATIONS.

THE AILEY PERFORMANCES JULY 5 AND 6 WERE MORE ENTHUSIAS-
TICALLY RECEIVED BY AUDIENCES COMPOSED LARGELY OF DANCE AND
POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT FANS. NEVERTHELESS, DESPITE A MASSIVE
USIS PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN, TICKET SALES REMAINED INSUFFICIENT TO
FILL THE FOLK ARTS THEATRE AND IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT THE
CCP -- WHICH COVERED ALL COSTS INVOLVED WITH THE AILEY VISIT
HERE WHILE GENEROUSLY BILLING THE EMBASSY AS THE OFFICIAL
CO-SPONSOR -- WILL TAKE A HEAVY FINANCIAL LOSS ON THE VENTURE.
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THE JULY 6 PERFORMANCE HAD A HEALTHY 2500 ATTENDANCE, WHICH
UNFORTUNATELY LOOKED SMALL IN THE 8,000 SEAT THEATER.

C. AMERICAN SPECIALIST ROBERT SCALAPINO -- CAL. BERKELEY
POLITICAL SCIENTIST ROBERT SCALAPINO DISCUSSED U.S. ASIAN
POLICY WITH POLITICAL SCIENTISTS AND EDITORS AT A LUNCHEON
HOSTED BY CHARGE STULL ON JULY 6. FOR THREE AND A HALF HOURS
SCALAPINO FOCUSED ON THE INTERRELATIONSHIPS WHICH COMPLICATE

U.S. AND MAJOR POWERS' POLICIES TOWARD ASEAN, THE PRC, SOUTH KOREA AND TAIWAN. HE SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME EXPLORING PRESIDENT CARTER'S HUMAN RIGHTS EMPHASIS, WHICH GAVE CHARGE STULL THE OPPORTUNITY TO ELUCIDATE AND ELABORATE ON THE POLICY AND ITS SPECIFIC IMPLEMENTATION IN THE PHILIPPINES. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE NATIONAL DEFENSE COLLEGE ROUNDED OUT THE AUDIENCE. THE LIVELY GIVE-AND-TAKE BY ATTENDEES EVIDENCED THE KEEN INTEREST WITH WHICH HIS VIEWS WERE RECEIVED.

SCALAPINO IS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH ANOTHER GROUP OF POLITICAL SCIENTISTS AT THE THOMAS JEFFERSON CENTER BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE BY JULY 10. WHILE IN MANILA HE HAS BEEN THE PRIMARY U.S. REPRESENTATIVE AT A PRIVATE CONFERENCE JULY 6-9 ON POSITIVE STRATEGIES FOR FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC.
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